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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON KAUNDA'S VISIT

Praia VOZ DI POVO in Portuguese 8 Apr 83 p 3

[Text] 1. The President of the Republic of the United National Independence Party (UNIP), His Excellency Kenneth David Kaunda, made an official visit of friendship to the Republic of Cape Verde from April 2-5, 1983, at the invitation of His Excellency, President of the Republic of Cape Verde and Secretary-General of the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde (PAICV), Aristides Maria Pereira. The Zambian President was accompanied by his wife, Betty Kaunda.

2. President Kaunda and his delegation received an enthusiastic and warm welcome from the people of Cape Verde, who in so doing expressed their feelings of friendship and solidarity for the people of Zambia.

3. During his stay in Cape Verde, President Kaunda and his delegation visited the interior of Santiago Island, where they could see the determined efforts made by the Cape Verdean people to rebuild the nation and achieve socio-economic development and progress.

4. The two heads of state and their delegations held talks in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and cordiality. They discussed matters of mutual interest and issues of fundamental importance for the international community in general and for the African continent specifically.

5. The Zambian delegation at these meetings comprised the following officials:

- 1) R. C. Kamanga, president of the Political and Legal Commission of the Central Committee.
- 2) Prof. L. K. H. Goma, minister of foreign affairs.
- 3) W. J. Phiri, special assistant to the president (political affairs).
- 4) J. C. M. Punabantu, special assistant to the president (press).
- 5) D. C. Mulaisho, special assistant to the president (economic affairs).
- 6) Ambassador Kalenga Kangwa, under-secretary in charge of political affairs and international cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 7) B. Zulu, ambassador of Zambia to Cape Verde and Angola.
- 8) O. R. Haambote, undersecretary attached to the president's cabinet.

6. The Cape Verdean delegation was made up of the following officials:

- 1) Silvino da Luz, first commander and minister of foreign affairs.
- 2) Olivio Pires, first commander and secretary of the National Council of PAICV.
- 3) Honorio Chantre, first commander and minister of defense.
- 4) Manuel Delgado, advisor to the minister of foreign affairs.
- 5) Amarante da Rosa, chief, Department of International Organizations Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 6) Jose Duarte, chief, Department for Africa, Asia and Oceania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 7) Jose Rocha, expert, State Secretariat for Cooperation and Planning.
- 8) Jose Filomeno Monteiro, press attache.

7. As regards relations between Zambia and Cape Verde, the two heads of state reaffirmed their determination to use appropriate ways and means to further the relationship of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples. To this end, the two heads of state agreed on the urgent need for an exchange of views and experience between the two countries' economic experts with a view to exploring possibilities for cooperation.

Belief in African Unity

8. In reviewing the situation in Africa, the two presidents deplored the crises afflicting the continent and their negative impact on unity within the OAU. They reaffirmed their belief in African unity and their willingness to help strengthen the OAU to put into practice the principles contained in its Charter, and particularly the principle of the complete liberation of the African continent. They reiterated their conviction that negotiation, mediation, conciliation and dialogue are the only satisfactory ways to find a peaceful solution to the crises in Africa and to restore and consolidate African unity.

Condemnation of the Policy and Practice of Apartheid

9. As regards South Africa, the two heads of state spoke out vehemently against the policy and practice of apartheid in all its forms and manifestations, and specifically against the oppression and discrimination practiced against the majority of the South African people by the Pretoria regime. They went on to express their full solidarity and support for the struggle of the oppressed South African people and they stressed their determination to work hand in hand for the total eradication of apartheid and the minority regime in South Africa.

Full Solidarity with the Namibian People in their Struggle under SWAPO's leadership

10. The two heads of state reaffirmed their full support for the struggle for national liberation carried out by the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO, their only legitimate representative. They expressed

their profound indignation at the fact that the independence of the Namibian people continues to be jeopardized by the intransigence of the racist South African regime. They categorically rejected any link between the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and the independence of Namibia. They repeated their conviction that Namibia's independence should be assured under resolution 435 adopted by the Security Council of the United Nations in 1978.

11. In this connection, they urged all peace- and freedom-loving countries to join forces so that an immediate and satisfactory solution could be found to the current deadlock in the negotiations for the independence of Namibia. They repeated their conviction that lasting peace and stability could not be established in southern Africa until an end is put to the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa and until the abominable system of apartheid in South Africa is actually dismantled.

12. The two presidents angrily condemned the continuous acts of political, military and economic aggression and sabotage committed by the racist regime of South Africa against the Front Line countries and other African nations outside southern Africa, and especially the invasion of the southern part of the People's Republic of Angola and the aggression and genocide in Lesotho. They noted that these acts of undeclared war on the part of South Africa were designed to hamper international efforts at funding a peaceful way leading to Namibia's independence and to undermine the efforts of neighboring countries in their struggle for the economic liberation of South Africa.

13. On this point, President Aristides Pereira paid tribute to President Kaunda and the Front Line countries for their sacrifices and for the important role they continue to play in supporting liberation movements in southern Africa and their just struggle against the last bastion of imperialist, colonialist and racist domination in Africa.

Confirmation of the Right of the Saharan People to Self-Determination and Independence

14. With regard to Western Sahara, the two heads of state expressed their concern over the increased tensions in that region, which could affect other African regions and particularly western Africa. They confirmed the right of the Saharan people to self-determination and independence, under the leadership of the Polisario Front, and they urged the parties concerned to hold a dialogue under the auspices of the OAU, in order to find a rapid and satisfactory solution to the crisis in Western Sahara. This could preserve African unity and the credibility of the OAU.

Middle East: There Will Not be Peace Until the Palestinian People Can Exercise Their Rights

15. In connection with the situation in the Middle East, the two heads of state expressed their concern and repeated their conviction that no just and lasting solution for the region will be found unless Israel

withdraws from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and unless the PLO participates in the negotiations on an equal footing with the other countries concerned. They reiterated their conviction that peace will only be possible in that region when the Palestinian people can exercise their national, inalienable rights, including the right to establish their own state.

16. In considering the conflict between Iran and Iraq, the two heads of state expressed their concern over the human, material, moral and political consequences for the region in particular and for the Non-Aligned Movement in general, and they appealed to the warring nations to show their good will and magnanimity, and put an end of this fratricidal war.

Concern over the Unprecedented Escalation in the Arms Race

17. The two presidents expressed their concern over the unprecedented escalation in the arms race, which today more than ever increases the possibility of a nuclear war and threatens peace throughout the world, while the economic and social situation in the less developed countries continues to deteriorate. They noted that the immense human and material resources employed in the arms race could be better used in the development process to reduce the poverty afflicting the majority of the world's population. They repeated their conviction that international security and peace could only be achieved with general and complete disarmament, and especially nuclear disarmament.

International Economic Situation: Appeal for a Common, Collective Position on the Part of Developing Countries in the North-South Dialogue

18. With regard to the international economic situation, the two presidents expressed their concern over the worsening situation and the negative trends that continue to have an unfavorable impact on the economies of the developing countries. They stressed the need to continue the North-South dialogue as a basis for creating a New International Order that would be more just and equitable. They called for a common, collective position to be taken by developing countries in the North-South dialogue and they pointed to the urgent need to further and diversify current efforts at South-South cooperation, with a view to promoting technical and economic cooperation among developing countries. To this end, they repeated their support for the objectives adopted at the Seventh Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement held in New Delhi, India, 7-11 March, 1983.

Regional Cooperation: Support for and Adherence to the Principle as a Basis for an African Economic Community

19. As regards regional cooperation in Africa, the two heads of state reaffirmed their support for and adherence to the principle of regional cooperation as a basis for an African Economic Community, as provided

for in the Lagos Action Plan. In this regard, they noted the progress that has been made by regional African groups, and especially the PTA and ECOWAS. They agreed to intensify their efforts to achieve the goals and objectives of the Lagos Action Plan for the economic development of Africa.

20. During discussions on regional cooperation, the two presidents expressed their concern over the continuous process of desertification on the African continent, and especially the Sahara region. However, they expressed their satisfaction over the active role that the Intergovernmental Committee for Drought Control in the Sahara (CILSS) has been playing under the leadership of His Excellency Aristides Pereira in helping to control the drought and make themembers self-sufficient in food. In this regard, President Kaunda congratulated President Pereira on the dynamic and effective work he had successfully accomplished as president of the Conference of Heads of the CILSS. The two chiefs of state stressed the importance of the official visit to Cape Verde of President Kenneth Kaunda and President Aristides Pereira's visit to Zambia in February 1982, and they expressed the firm conviction that these visits strengthened and cemented the excellent relations between the two countries, the two parties, the two governments and the two nations. They stated that these visits should be made at all levels, including at the party level.

Increase of Contacts between the UNIP and the PAICV

22. In this connection, the two presidents decided to strengthen and increase contacts between the United National Independence Party (UNIP) of Zambia and the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde (PAICV). President Kaunda accordingly addressed an invitation to the PAICV and to the Cape Verde government to send delegations at different levels to Zambia. The two presidents expressed their satisfaction and pleasure at the important role that the two parties, UNIP and PAICV, had played and continue to play in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, the degradation of man, neocolonialism, racism and other forms of oppression in Africa.

23. Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, president of the Republic of Zambia, expressed his complete satisfaction at the results of his visit to Cape Verde. He expressed his profound gratitude to Mr. Aristides Maria Pereira, president of the Republic of Cape Verde and secretary-general of the PAICV, to the government and the friendly people of Cape Verde for the warm and brotherly welcome and generous hospitality accorded him and his wife, Betty Kaunda, and his delegation, in the best African tradition, during their stay in Cape Verde.

9805

CSO: 3442/221

AICF EXPANDING ACTIVITIES IN NATION

Ndjamena INFO TCHAD in French 6 May 83 pp 11-12

[Excerpts] Guy Dupasquier, secretary general of the International Association Against Hunger (AICF) arrived in Ndjamena Monday, to take account of the work done by that philanthropic organization in our country. AICF, which opened its doors in Ndjamena last year, became operational the end of June by taking an active part in the "food transport" operation into the interior of the country. Mr Dupasquier, who met Joseph Yodeyman, minister of plan and reconstruction, yesterday morning, will continue his talks with the authorities. This morning he is to go to Mongo where an AICF subbranch is installed. Although no statement has been made on future AICF projects in our country, it is possible that this association may extend its activity and prolong its stay in Chad.

Some 16 kilometers from the small city of Bitkine, on the road to Melfi, Moukoulou, a village of 1,500 inhabitants lost at the foot of the Guera chain, does not escape the punishing sun which pitilessly bombards plants and men. It is in this locality that AICF decided to build a well. For this population, which like all those of the region, struggles for its survival, such an offer is an un hoped for godsend. AICF understood this. It undertook the construction and improvement of 20 wells in some 20 villages of the Mongo and Bitkine subprefectures. In these regions where there are serious water supply problems, since February, AICF has put into operation an assistance program in which WFP and OXFAM are participating. The objective: to find a solution to the lack of water in the villages most affected by the drought, by giving technical support to the villagers who have decided to sink new wells, and providing them with supplementary food aid. This project has mobilized a large number of villagers.

AICF, which does not leave Paris with preconceived ideas and schemes outlined on the bank of the Seine, uses a very simple technique: it listens to the people speak of their likes, their needs, their wishes and proposes to help them when they themselves have clearly expressed their needs and made the decision to act first. Thus, when large quantities of foodstuffs were stockpiled in Ndjamena, their transport into the interior of the country presented a crucial problem. The starving populations are waiting for these foodstuffs, which would save them from dying. The authorities exerted considerable effort, but the means were

lacking. The government obviously needed support. AICF proposed its services. Having obtained from the French ministry of cooperation and development three trucks and two trailers, which were added to the four trucks available from the start, it intensified its participation in the WFP foodstuff distribution operations until the time when, at the request of the state, it undertook the transport of French food aid to the Guera, Batha, Biltine, Kanem and Lac prefectures.

This operation will be carried out in two stages. Fearing that the roads will be closed during the rainy season, AICF will first carry out this distribution operation in the Batha, Biltine and Guera prefectures, regions which are inaccessible starting in July. Only later starting in June, will shipments to Kanem and Lac, which can be serviced throughout the year, be undertaken.

But if the routing of food aid remains the association's priority activity for at least some months longer, AICF is also committed to expanding its action. It wishes to go beyond simple emergency actions in order to intervene more deeply in the field of development aid.

In the same way as in these two broad lines of action, AICF's help was not lacking when it was necessary. It was the association which, among others, planned the transport of the repatriates who wished to come back to their region of origin when more than 10,000 Chadians living in Nigeria were expelled from that country in January, thus placing the Ndjamen authorities in a difficult situation. Thanks to a subsidy from the European Economic Community (EEC), it even purchased foodstuffs intended for the most deprived social classes of the population and which the "MSF" (Doctors Without Frontiers) association endeavored to take over. (ATP [CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY])

9434

CSO: 3419/899

ADB REPORTEDLY FINANCING LARGE NUMBER OF PROJECTS

Ndjamena INFO TCHAD in French 28 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] Since Monday, Pierre Moussa, administrator of the African Development Bank (ADB), has been in Ndjamena where he will make a certain number of contacts with the Chadian authorities. He told the CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY that he came to Ndjamena with a very full program. The ADB is indeed ready to grant Chad financing on a broad scale for the implementation of a large number of projects.

ADB's priority project in Chad is the rebuilding of the Ndjamena international airport. "We want to restore everything that has to do with civil aeronautics in Chad," Pierre Moussa stated. ADB will also intervene in many other fields. It will take part in the development of the Lake Chad polders, for which a package of 2 billion CFA francs was granted. You will also note, among the projects of interest to ADB, the financing of electricity for Ndjamena, the training and retraining of the STEE [Chadian Electrical Energy Company] executives, the improvement of our capital's sanitation.

ADB is also ready to take part in the opening of a reconstruction bank and in the setting up of a Chadian financing fund; this institution, moreover, envisages bringing technical assistance to small and middle-size firms in Chad. From the same bank, our country could get emergency aid for restoring Posts and Telecommunications, opening an agricultural bank and financing and developing the Chadian oil refinery. (ATP [CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY])

9434

CSO: 3419/899

CHAD

UGEST BRAZZAVILLE DENOUNCES STUDENT SUPPORT FOR GUNT

Ndjamena INFO TCHAD in French 5 May 83 p 3

[Excerpts] A letter and a motion of support have revealed attempts at the infiltration of Chadian student circles in Brazzaville. Taking it upon themselves to speak in the name of the General Union of Chadian Students and Trainees, a group of students sent to Bardal a letter, pompously described as a "manifesto," in which they express the so-called support of the Chadian students in Brazzaville for the stateless persons assembled within the phantasmal GUNT [Traditional National Union Government].

This letter of allegiance evidently cannot be the work of responsible students. Only persons led astray by the power of money can produce such meanness. The reaction of UGEST/Brazzaville, which sent a letter of denial to the Chadian Government, speaks for itself in this sense. This association not only does not acknowledge sponsorship of this much vaunted manifesto, but also emphasizes that by its statute it cannot take sides. The aim of such an association, while defending the interests of the students, is to awaken minds to the true problems confronting the country, to reflect on the country's future and to make its contribution through positive proposals.

The matter of the Brazzaville students' manifesto can make us think about the attempts to manipulate Chadian students. The latter should bear in mind that they have an important responsibility in the resurgence of a national and nationalistic spirit. They should begin by transcending the pettiness which has brought several years of instability to Chad. (ATP [CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY]).

9434

CSO: 3419/899

NATION REPORTEDLY OPEN TO WESTERN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Paris L'USINE NOUVEL in French 5 May 83 pp 167-169

[Article by Francois Perrier: "Congo, The Awakening of a Market"]

[Excerpts] Realism dictates: The People's Republic of the Congo is opening itself once more to the Western economies and reinvests its off-shore oil revenues for the development of its territory. French firms are already involved in the provision of the infrastructure. But in other fields everything still remains to be done.

How much does France have to gain from the about 600 billion CFA francs earmarked for equipment in the Congo's 5-year plan? A diplomat estimates it at 75 percent. In fact French public works companies have begun to cut hundreds of kilometers of roadway in the bush, to level runways for heavy freight aircraft, to lay tracks in the swamps. The People's Republic of the Congo is reinvesting its off-shore oil revenues for the development of its territory.

Since the 5-year plan started up 2 years ago, the country has once again offered trade opportunities. And it is well on the way to becoming a proper trade partner. That is no small event because, since gaining independence in 1960, this former French colony has virtually been closed to the Western economies. The brief presidency of Father Fulbert Youlou was followed by 15 years of uncompromising Marxism, during which time China, the USSR, Cuba and the Eastern countries were the only ones to collaborate with the young people's republic.

In 1979, when Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the present head of state, came to power, he found an economy in ruins. Even now the road network is so badly neglected that it took 8 days of driving for the Paris-Dakar crew to cross the country, and cave-ins happen all the time on the railroad track linking Brazzaville with the coast. The productivity of the state enterprises is disastrous. The example of the Nkayi sugar factory may serve to illustrate the breakdown. In 1968, its record year, the factory produced 100,000 tons of cane sugar; 10 years later the output was less than 5,000 tons. Even now the Congo needs to import sugar for human consumption, because the refineries were closed down in 1977!

This dramatic situation has compelled the regime to relax its economic policy. French technicians have replaced the Cuban cooperators, the code of investments has

been revised and once again authorizes the establishment of foreign companies, and Pierre Moussa, minister of plan, went to Paris to assure the National Council of French Employers that his country was indeed open to international cooperation.

German Sugar Harvesters and Trailers Constructed in Epernay

This new liberalism, married to official Marxist dogmatism that is constantly reaffirmed despite everything, translates into a disconcerting cocktail and appears even odder in the atmosphere of a Black African obedient child: The high school is dedicated to Marx, the barracks to Allende or Che Guevara, but last month the last Soviet citizens left the dispiriting buildings of the Cosmos Hotel that the Frantel chain is going to redevelop. The yard of the new PLM /expansion unknown/ is operating opposite the "Palace of the People" nearing completion by the Chinese workforce. The fighter aircrafts are Migs (90 percent of military training personnel were themselves trained in the USSR), and militia men armed with Kalashnikovs accompany visitors to the factories. But the tractors at Nkayi are American; the sugar harvesters German and the trailers were constructed in Epernay.

"The People's Republic of the Congo is one of the few African countries to behave almost irreproachably with regard to civil rights," a French diplomat assures us. And for the past 2 years all the banners, songs and slogans have emphasized the country's great project: The realization of the ambitious 5-year plan. This program, involving 1,100 billion CFA francs, spread from 1981-1986, carries the hopes of the entire population. While it is essentially consecrated to the opening up of the country, it must also finance vital equipment. At Ouessou, at the northern border, the opening of a modest hydrocarbon deposit is to resolve at one and the same time the issue of water supplies, cuts in the telephone service and the shortage of motor fuel. The river, the only access from Brazzaville, is actually impassable in the dry season, and the absence of storage capacities makes some weeks very difficult.

The success of the plan largely depends on the evolution of world oil prices. The fiscal receipts for off-shore oil in fact provide two thirds of the Congo's finances. In 1982 4.5 million tons were produced. The beginning of operations at the wells of Yanga Marine and Senji gives rise to the hope of 6 million in 1984 (see UNITED NATIONS No 10, p 60). But this possible development depends on the tax rate charged by the Congolese Government.

At the beginning of the year the Brazzaville authorities were taxing on a basis of \$31 per barrel a gross market price of \$27 or 28. Negotiations are being pursued between the two companies Elf Congo and Agip--the Italian company represents a third of output--on the one hand and the Congolese Government on the other. But the two parties have only a slim margin for maneuver. Insistence on unduly high taxes would lead to a drop in production, though neither side has an interest in this happening. Elf now needs to amortize heavy investments carried out in recent years. And the government cannot hold back without peril the plan to which it is committed.

Traces of Uranium Discovered in the Ouessou Region

Nor can the government underestimate the training effect of Elf Congo's operation on the total national economy. The company's investments have required the installation

of a logistic platform covering 15 hectares at the harbor of Pointe-Noire. And close by, the shipyard of Bouygues is constructing offshore platform jackets that are subsequently supplied to all oilfields in the Gulf of Guinea. Elf Congo employs about 1,000 people and devotes 18 million hours per annum to training. "That means 10 percent of working hours," indicates Bernard Druneau, manager of the training center; "we are training a generation of Congolese technicians in primary maintenance."

In the past 2 years the company has spent 40 billion CFA francs on exploration. The pursuit of that effort will depend on the new fiscal terms. In particular with regard to the Emerald deposit. Congolese territorial waters actually contain the most important deposits handled by the Elf group worldwide: 592 million tons confirmed, located only 200-450 meters down, under 70 meters of water. But the fractured schistous formations do not yield more than 3 percent of their resources. The oil men had to strew the ocean with more than 30 platforms on 12 square km of coastline to arrive at that mediocre result. They will therefore inject the deposit with 500 tons of steam daily, at 200-250° C, to liquefy the oil and dilate the pool strata.

This technique has had appreciable results in homogeneous sandy formations but has never yet been tried in similar geological conditions. The company must invest Fr 490 million in this pilot scheme Emerald--steam, that is to go into operation in 1984. But at the present tax rates, the extra work involved in the exploitation would make the operation profitable only if oil prices were around \$40 per barrel.

The Congolese Government also expects Elf to carry on other industrial operations. To begin with by developing natural gas resources. Arthur Martel, director general of Elf Congo, confirms that "the deposits are large but the gasholders poor and closed down. To justify the establishing of a liquefying unit, 100 billion cubic meters output would be required. We are nowhere near even half that volume. On the other hand, we are now studying the setting up of a production unit for urea and methane, because that would require less gas."

Elf technicians have also been running the Pointe-Noire refinery since December 1982. It had not operated since 1972, the date when work began. And for 10 years the Congo imported gasoline and fuel, although the wells are only a few kilometers from the refinery installations!

Also on behalf of Elf, the Compagnie Generale de Geophysique is going over the Duck Beak area of the Ouessou region with a fine magnetic toothcomb, because traces of uranium were found there.

While petroleum now allows the Congo to escape from stagnation, its rulers are pre-occupied with preparing for the post-petroleum era. "It is the aim of the plan to bring in energy and communications so as to permit activities to take off," explains Pierre Moussa. "Even if the decline in oil prices should require us to cut the program, we will not sacrifice our break-out, because it is vital for our future."

At Ouessou, Colas Congo is now constructing a runway capable of accommodating Boeing 737's. The city expects even greater results from the Brazzaville-Ouessou road, construction of which has also begun. The latter is an operation by Ducler from Mirande (Gers), and the first section from Owando to Ouessou has already been hacked

out, 310 kilometers across the bush; 4 rivers were crossed by bridges 120-140 meters long, and 10 kilometers have been metaled. The construction yard employs 380, about 40 of whom are expatriates. The excavators had to be transported by river. "The road and the shoulders will have to be able to cope with heavy logging truck traffic," explains Jean-Louis Gaucher, the technical director. In fact the future road will serve as the spinal column of the entire country. The logs now floated to Brazzaville by river will be conveyed by road.

Lumber, the Second Resource of the Congo

"The forest represents our real and inexhaustible wealth," Pierre Moussa points out. The government is pressuring Elf Congo to invest in forestry. This diversification of the oil companies is very much an element of the present negotiations.

Arthur Martel replies that "we know about oil refining. Lumber is not within our scope." Still, Elf is involved in a research company that is studying the feasibility of a pulp manufacturing plant to be established on the coast. Already 10,000 hectares of eucalyptus trees have been planted in the coastal swamps, on poor soil unsuitable for farming. The authorities are counting on the yields of these clones that have a great deal of ligneous productivity and on the perfect uniformity of that lumber to supply a cellulose pulp factory operating for export and with a capacity likely to achieve 250,000 tons.

With a gross production of 600,000 cubic meters of logs, lumber is the second resource of the Congo. The country's exceptional forestry potential would deserve substantial development. Pierre Moussa is looking for partners. He is making no secret of that fact.

A Congolese proverb says "fish follow the current." The business world has begun to respond: It is almost impossible to find a hotel room in Brazzaville, and each evening the lounges of the Meridien are transformed into dormitories.

French firms have carried off tenders for most of the major infrastructural construction projects. They are also largely represented in the oil business.

In Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire people wear Bata shoes and drink Kronenbourg beer. But neither Renault nor Peugeot can get beyond the asphalted roads of the capital. In the other departments everything still needs to be done. It would be a pity to miss out on the Congolese awakening.

11698

CSO: 3419/933

GDR TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS' CONTRACT

Brazzaville BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN DE L'ACI in French 30 Apr 83 p 3

/Article: "Cooperation Between the GDR and the Congo"/

/Text/ Brazzaville, 30 April--A cooperation agreement was signed yesterday /29 April/ in the conference room of the Ministry of Cooperation by the government of the GDR /German Democratic Republic/ and the government of the RPC /People's Republic of the Congo/. The two governments were represented, respectively, by comrade Gerd Reicherdt, charge d'affaires of the GDR Embassy in the People's Republic of the Congo, and comrade Wilson Abel Ndessabeka, secretary general of the Congolese Ministry of Cooperation.

This agreement covers the assignment of persons engaged in cooperation activity. It provides that four persons will be sent by the GDR to the Congo.

These persons will provide their services in the Ministries of National Education (as an expert adviser in pedagogy) and Public Health and Social Affairs (as specialists in general medicine). Two other experts will serve in the Ministry of Industry and Fishing as management and planning advisers.

This contract was prepared in the framework of the scientific and technical cooperation agreement which was signed by the two governments on 3 December 1982 in Berlin, covering the years 1983 and 1984. The German experts will have a tour of duty in the Congo of 24 months.

5170

CSO: 3419/883

REVOLUTION'S FUTURE REPORTEDLY DEPENDENT ON SELF-RELIANCE

Brazzaville ETUMBA in French No 693, 23 Apr 83 pp 1, 2

/Article: "Increasing Productivity and Strictness in Management"

/Text/ During the sessions of the Third Extraordinary Congress of the Congolese Labor Party (PCT) an in-depth analysis showed that our country has considerable advantages in the social and economic area. These advantages allow us to perceive real possibilities for national liberation, the prelude to the building of the socialist society to which we aspire. This led those attending the party congress to define a revolutionary strategy which represents a clear break with the international capitalist division of labor. The strategy thus adopted is a strategy of development aimed at refocusing our national economy, which has previously been directed to foreign markets and controlled by financial capital interests.

Between the sessions of the Third Extraordinary Congress and the 12th Session of the Central Committee of the PCT, which is now being held, we covered a lot of ground. While still keeping in mind the pertinent analyses presented at the congress and the strategy adopted on that solemn occasion, we prepared the 1982-86 Five-Year Plan which we are now implementing.

The time has come for an evaluation showing what our capacity is to implement the plan. The Central Committee meeting now in session has undertaken this effort without any sense of complacency. Avoiding any anticipation of the findings and the directives that might be approved by the Central Committee, the speech by President Denis Sassou-Nguesso at the opening ceremony sounded the alert in two areas:

--first, the turbulent aspects of the international situation and the constraints imposed by the world economic situation. These are factors which, taken together, constitute an objective reality which we must face up to and deal with in the implementation of our plan;

--elsewhere, the recovery plans applied by our state enterprises have not produced the results that we counted on: 30 billion CFA francs have been lost!

Whether we are talking about the plan or recovery in our state enterprises, what is involved is the same thing: the future of the revolution and the

welfare of our people. We have no other recourse than to rely on our own strength. There is where the human factor always comes up, the key question of discipline and enthusiasm in our work, of revolutionary commitment and an acute sense of duty to the masses of the people. "Today we need, more than ever, to march along our path with our ranks close together, so that we will be able to emerge from this period of turbulence without too much damage." We have to increase our efforts in terms of productive work and strictness in management.

5170

CSO: 3419/883

PREMIER SAYS EXPENDITURES CAN BE REDUCED WITHOUT AFFECTING BUDGET

Libreville L'UNION in French 20 Apr 83 pp 1, 4

/Excerpt/ Mr Leon Mebiame, prime minister and head of state, officially opened the first regular annual session at the Congress Building of the 12 March city yesterday before the 93 delegates, the government members present in the capital, those of appointed bodies, the heads of diplomatic missions assigned to Libreville and the group "Kounabeli."

The first and the second speaker noted each in his turn that the last three month break between sessions had not destroyed the elected representatives' contact with each other or with affairs of state.

But this was not the essential part of the two speeches made yesterday at 12 March because Mr Augustin Boumah and Mr Leon Mebiame both spoke of the negative effects of the worldwide economic crisis on Gabon's economy. It was the second time that the prime minister had spoken of Gabon's economic situation following the devaluation of the franc and the drop in oil prices decided on by OPEC, of which Gabon is a member.

However, Mr Leon Mebiame said that we could reduce our expenditures without necessarily affecting the budget by seeking greater productivity in our resources and administration, especially by giving free rein to competition with the creation of administrative markets and by commissioning studies from the professional study bureau, etc.

"How much could our budgetary revenues be increased," the prime minister wondered, "if price controls were more successful in achieving their goal."

In the final analysis, Mr Leon Mebiame affirmed, the government will correct what is correctible, but this will require a climate of conscientiousness, confidence and frank cooperation, he added. With this in mind, the cooperation of the National Assembly was once again promised him yesterday by the president Augustin Boumah.

Let us note that a planning session takes place today to decide on the subjects chosen for discussion during this session. It will certainly involve legislative bills and ordinances, either proposed by the government or drawn up by the National Assembly.

9825

CSO: 3419/886

GABON

BRIEFS

FRENCH COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED--An economic and financial cooperation agreement was signed in Paris yesterday by the French minister of cooperation and development, Mr Christian Nucci and the Gabonese minister of state, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr Martin Bongo. This cooperation agreement, signed while the great mixed French-Gabonese commission is being held in Paris, doesn't include any commitment to specific figures. It renews the cooperation between the two countries governed by the 1974 agreement, while taking into consideration the evolution of the economic and financial situations of the two countries and the necessity of developing Gabon. The mixed commission should complete its work this afternoon. /Text/ /Libreville
L'UNION in French 15 Apr 83 p 1/ 9825

CSO: 3419/886

GHANA

BRIEFS

NIGERIA SEIZING TRADERS' GOODS--Ghanaian traders returning from Nigeria face the bleak prospect of losing their goods. This is because Nigerian customs officials at the Murtala Airport in Lagos have begun seizing goods including textiles and other essential commodities. Ghanaian traders interviewed at the Kotoka International Airport on their return told newsmen that in some cases only half a piece of cloth is allowed. All commodities like soap, toothpaste, mackerel, biscuits, and food items are confiscated. A GNA [GHANA NEWS AGENCY] report from Lagos has confirmed that since the exercise began early last week the hardest hit are Ghanaian traders who shuttle between Accra and Lagos. [Text] [AB232215 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 23 May 83]

CSO: 3400/1452

REPORT ON ALGERIAN PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 27 Apr 83 p 4

[Text] Questions of cooperation between Guinea-Bissau and Algeria and the next OAU summit meeting, to take place in June in Addis Ababa, were the principal issues taken up with our government officials during the recent 24-hour visit to our country by Algerian Prime Minister Ben Ahmed Abdelghani. The prime minister brought a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to Joao Bernardo Vieira (Nino), his Guinea-Bissau counterpart.

"This is my first visit of this kind to your country, within the framework of the traditional relations that have always existed between Algeria and Guinea-Bissau. We had the opportunity to take an accounting of the status of bilateral relations and to study ways to expand and dynamize that cooperation," the Algerian prime minister said, in a press conference with national and foreign newsmen shortly before he left Bissau for Cape Verde.

"This visit is particularly important in that it is taking place less than 2 months before the next OAU summit meeting. Hence it is timely to express ideas, exchange opinions and define positions," added the leader of the Algerian delegation.

Asked about the basic objectives of the recent meeting (26 February) between Chadli Bendjedid and King Hassan II of Morocco, Abdelghani stressed: "The basic purpose of the resumption of relations between Morocco and Algeria was to assist Morocco and the Western Sahara to arrive at just solutions to the conflict between the two countries, to bring about self-determination and independence for the Saharan people."

During his visit to Bissau, the Algerian leader met with Comrade Joao Bernardo Vieira (Nino), secretary general of the PAIGC and president of the CR [Revolutionary Council]. The prime minister invited Comrade Victor Saude Maria, his Guinean counterpart, to pay a goodwill visit to his country; the date will be duly announced through diplomatic channels. The Algerian leader also placed a floral wreath at the tomb of Amilcar Cabral, in Amara.

Regarding bilateral relations, it was stressed in a joint communique following the meeting that the two prime ministers reaffirmed the need to maintain and strengthen cooperation between Algeria and Guinea-Bissau in all areas, on the basis of respect for their interests and mutual advantage. They noted with satisfaction the climate of brotherhood, solidarity and friendship that has always characterised relations between the two countries.

Examining the international situation, Comrade Victor Saude Maria praised the recent positive development of relations among the countries of the Magreb. The two parties also noted with satisfaction the decision by the Committee of 12, in Nairobi in February, to hold a summit meeting of OAU chiefs of state and government this June in Addis Ababa.

Also regarding the OAU, the two delegation leaders reiterated their firm determination to preserve the OAU, which is seen as the most suitable means to achieve the total and definitive decolonization of Africa and to outline the policies for cooperation on a continental scale, which will strengthen the solidarity and independence of the African countries.

Saude Maria and Abdelghani voiced their conviction that, with regard to the situation prevailing in the northeast of Africa, the resolutions to come out of the Addis Ababa summit will provide a suitable framework to bring an end to the conflict between Morocco and the POLISARIO Front.

Negotiation by the concerned parties, the Saharan peoples' right to free expression of their chosen future and recognition of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence are the elements that could permit a just and lasting solution to this problem, which is a legacy from the colonial rule, according to the two chiefs of government.

Also according to the joint communique, the two parties appealed to the international community to make the necessary effort for the immediate implementation of the resolutions of international bodies (United Nations, Non aligned Movement and the OAU) regarding southern Africa, specifically UN Security Council Resolution 435 (78). They declared their countries are prepared to provide steadfast assistance to the South African people in struggle against oppression, exploitation and racism, as well as the Front Line countries in their resistance to Pretoria's aggression.

Broaching the situation in the Middle East, the Guinea-Bissau and Algerian delegations repudiated Israel's Zionist regime and reaffirmed their support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people, led by the PLO.

The two leaders also discussed the international economic situation, namely the worsening world economic crisis and its repercussions on developing countries, seriously jeopardizing their reconstruction efforts.

They also voiced their conviction that the Movement of Nonaligned Countries is the most suitable means to preserve their conquests and to strengthen their solidarity and cooperation, factors which could be instrumental in mitigating the effects of the international crisis and asserting their collective independence.

The Algerian prime minister, who is traveling through Africa, should proceed from Cape Verde to Sao Tome e Principe, Benin and Cameroon.

6362

CSO: 3442/230

GUINEA-BISSAU

SAUDE MARIA DISCUSSES BISSAU-CONAKRY RELATIONS

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 27 Apr 83 p 4

[Text] Comrade Victor Saude Maria, prime minister of Guinea-Bissau, called relations between our country and the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea an example of the achievement of the desired South-South cooperation.

The prime minister was speaking to newsmen yesterday afternoon before departing for Conakry on a 4-day visit at the invitation of Prime Minister Lamana Beavogui. In support of his statement, Saude Maria noted that there are Guinean cadres in our country "who are making an active contribution" in various socio-economic sectors "without making great financial demands on our government and working as if they were in their own country."

This fact is, in the words of Comrade Saude Maria, quite significant, since it a practical example of the possibility of achieving the desired South-South cooperation between poor countries by exploiting the real potential at the disposal of our continent.

According to Maria, a member of the PAIGC Political Bureau and vice president of the Revolutionary Council [CR], the general tendency of most African countries is to turn to the industrialized world, although Africa has great potential which could be very well exploited in certain sectors.

According to the official, this potential, in addition to adding more income to the scarce resources of our countries, also permits the much-mentioned cooperation among the underdeveloped countries, with the best use of that real potential. "The example of our Guinean comrades, whose work we much appreciate, is proof that this cooperation is possible and could contribute greatly to strengthening our [relations] and developing our countries," Maria stressed.

Referring to his 4-day visit to Conakry at the head of an important party and government delegation, Saude Maria said it is within the framework of regular contacts between our parties and states, which were intensified after 14 November; President Bernardo Vieira has recently been paying regular visits to that country.

The vice president of the CR declared that our people still remember the role played by the brother people of Guinea-Conakry, in the person of their eminent leader, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, during our struggle for national liberation. Guinea-Conakry was a secure rear guard for the PAIGC combatants and directly suffered the effects of that war.

The cooperation initiated following Guinea-Bissau's independence (cooperation which Saude Maria said is "going well" and "received new impetus after 14 November," when it "was decided to maintain high-level contacts") is proof of the determination of the two governments to strengthen their bonds of friendship and expand cooperation to a wide variety of sectors of common interest.

It is in this context that Guinean cadres are cooperating in the areas of health, rural development, natural resources, public works and education, and our technicians are working together in the execution of the project for the exploitation of the Rio Coliba/ Corubal, of great importance not only to the hydro-electric sector but to agriculture and ranching.

Boundary Problem

Questioned about the maritime boundaries between the two countries, our prime minister reported that discussion of this issue is going well and that the visit by Comrade Lansana Beavogui, his Guinean counterpart, to Bissau last December enabled the two countries to address the problem; at this time, "things are going well" and "in the interest of the two countries and peoples." The matter will later be closely examined by the competent ministries.

In this regard, it is noted that during a mission to Conakry in February, as our newspaper reported at the time, our delegation (led by Trade Minister Carlos Correia) proposed to the Guinea authorities that the issue of maritime boundaries be submitted to arbitration. The proposal was studied and it was agreed that it would be discussed by the Grand Joint Commission, which was scheduled to meet in March.

The mission also took up the need to establish trade between the two countries; specifically, we would import zinc and other aluminum products and would export part of our peanut production to that country. The issue of transportation for the trade program was also examined by the Special Commission, and the two parties determined to combine their efforts to this end.

Bissau and Conakry have also discussed the possibility of the joint exploitation of our natural resources, as well as the signing of a judicial accord, with exchange of documents for consultation. These topics will certainly be included on the agenda of the proceedings between the two delegations led by the respective prime ministers.

6362

CSO: 3442/230

BRIEFS

COMPETITION INVOLVES 18 FIRMS-- A total of 18 civil construction firms, including 4 Portuguese companies, were pre-qualified to bid on the construction of the new Bissau port and 4 other ports in the northern and southern areas of the country; the project is expected to cost a total of \$48.5 million, or about 4.8 billion escudos. The Portuguese companies (SOMACO, SOMECA, J. J. Bento Pedroso and Soares da Costa) are competing against subsidiaries of French, English, Dutch, Norwegian, Italian, Japanese, Brazilian and U. S. firms. Financing for this extensive undertaking, considered the costliest in the country to-date, is assured by the World Bank, Arab Bank for the Development of African Countries, Kuwaiti Fund, Saudi Arabian Fund and OPEC nations. [Text] [Lisbon TEMPO in Portuguese 5 May 83 p 30] 8568

CSO: 3442/233

FINAL RESULTS OF FIRAISANA ELECTIONS GIVEN

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 16 Apr 83 pp 1, 3

[Text] Passions have somewhat subsided today in the aftermath of the 13 April elections on that Wednesday which will remain blazoned in our memories as a day which gave birth to so many exciting new developments it would be pointless to enumerate them. We have amply and explicitly covered this last election in our many commentaries. However, the "historic coalition" between AKFM [Congress Party for Malagasy Independence] and AREMA [Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution], which was so successful, could well stand a fresh look in another context. Will these two groups always stay in tandem? Or will this alliance--which is at the same time both natural and unnatural--remain an exception to the rule? In all events, it must be recognized that without this marriage, the task of managing the majority of firaisana in Antananarivo would have been rendered infinitely more difficult, and the community as a whole would undoubtedly have been the big loser.

Here, then, are the final results from the 13 April elections in the Fivondronana of the capital; the names of the presidents of the executive committees (presicomex) in the six firaisana, and the make-up of the said committees.

Firaisana I: Presicomex: Randriamihasinoro E. Samuel (AKFM). Executive committee: 5 AKFM and 4 AREMA.

Firaisana II: Presicomex: Randriamanjara Justin (AFKM). Executive committee: 5 AKFM and 4 AREMA.

Firaisana III: Presicomex: Ranoarison Eusebe (AFKM). Executive committee: 5 AKFM, 3 AREMA and 1 MRM [Militants for the Establishment of a Proletarian Regime].

Firaisana IV: Presicomex: Rabemanantsoa Paul (AREMA). Executive committee: 4 AKFM and 5 AREMA. It should be noted that this is the only firaisana where the president's party was in the majority in the 3 April round of voting, by a narrow margin over AKFM. As agreed, therefore, the AREMA candidate enjoyed massive support from his alliance "partner." We understand that the inhabitants of that firaisana greeted the election of Mr Rabemanantsoa Paul with great relief.

Firaisana V: Presicomex: Randrianaly Georges (AKFM). Executive Committee: 5 AKFM and 4 AREMA.

Firaisana VI: Presicomex: Rasoloarimanana Justin (AKFM). Executive Committee: 6 AKFM and 3 AREMA.

Everyone agrees that these figures mean the AKFM is going to capture the fivondronana of Antananarivo. If it gets as many votes on 24 April, in the people's council elections in the fivondronana, the AKFM will be able to make due without the "services" from the mass of AREMA voters. And it may well have the presidency of the capital fivondronana handed to it on a silver platter.

In fact, Pastor Andriamanjato's party now has 280 electoral delegates (grands electeurs) in all, compared to 71 for MFM, 25 for VITM [People's Movement for National Unity] and 45 for MONIMA K. [National Movement for the Independence of Madagascar-K]. This lead will be increased further in the upcoming elections for the VIP's, the presidents of the people's councils and the fivondronana executive committee. Only AREMA, with its 180 Antananarivan electoral delegates can stop this irresistible momentum of AKFM. Also it is conceivable that at the higher level of the VIP's, the two abovementioned revolutionary organizations might show their sense of generosity if not fair play toward the other three parties by giving them a few seats. Such a gesture would certainly be appreciated by the voters in the capital.

9516

CSO: 3419/858

AKFM STRENGTH DEMONSTRATED IN ELECTIONS

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 28 Apr 83 pp 1, 2

[Text] There were substantial indications, even before the elections for the fivondronana [administrative units] people's councils, that the Malagasy capital would end up headed by the AKFM [Congress Party for Malagasy Independence]; now we must acknowledge that this has indeed come to pass. If we put such emphasis on the fivondronana of Antananarivo, it is primarily because it was given so much attention by all the political parties in the Front. To summarize, if we add the number of seats obtained by AKFM (19) and the firaisana presidencies it captures (5), bearing in mind that those firaisana [district] presidents are statutory members of the people's council, we get a total of 24 seats or electoral delegates (grands electeurs). It will be recalled that AREMA [Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution] won 12 seats Sunday and one firaisana executive committee presidency (presicomex), MONIMA-K [National Movement for the Independence of Madagascar-K] won 3, MFM [Militants for the Establishment of a Proletarian Regime] 6, VITM [People's Movement For National Unity] 2, for a total of 24. The name of the game now is to see whether it will be "every man for himself" in the upcoming election of the membership of the executive committees of the fivondronana of Antananarivo.

If the four other parties do not come to an understanding--as is feared--there is nothing to prevent AKFM from reaching the goal it has been working to achieve since 27 February, the date of the initial VIP elections: winning the fivondronana of the capital.

No one gave Pastor Andriamanjato's party much chance of emerging the winner in Antananarivo. It must be conceded, of course, that AKFM could not have won without AREMA, which cleared the way for its victory in the fivondronana. Indeed, without AREMA's support in the 13 April round of voting, the "Colombe" could not have flown so high. But one question remains: will AREMA get its piece of the "pie" in the allocation of seats on the executive committee, whose presidency at this point seems locked up by Mrs Bao Andriamanjato?

However, the situation in the other region is different from the situation in Antananarivo. One might say without exaggeration that the president's party is virtually the law in nearly all the fivondronana. And the results

posted yesterday at the Coupole confirm what we say. Out of the 1,193 seats to be filled, 929 are in the hands of AREMA. The relative standing of the other parties remains unchanged, except for the fact that MFM is now in the number two position. We would also note that Maharanga's VSM [MONIMA Socialist Group] has not yet succeeded in electing a single people's councillor, and that UDECMA [Malagasy Christian Democratic Union] seems content with its lone seat. Moreover, it is astonishing that we have so far received the results from only 67 of the country's 110 fivondronanas. And we can only congratulate the faritany of Antsiranana, which dispatched its results to the ministry of interior in record time.

In that faritany, where only four revolutionary organizations fielded candidates for the fivondronana people's councils, 171 seats were at stake: AREMA took 140, followed by AKFM with 13, VITM with 11 and MFM with 7. In the fivondronana of Sambava AREMA decisively beat AKFM, its only opponent, by a 28-seat margin. On the other hand, the margins were less onesided in Antsiranana I and Nosy-Be; in the other areas the performance of the three other parties was less impressive. In that same province, none of the electoral delegates of the three fivondronanas of Antsiranana I, Ambilobe and Nosy-Be, failed to cast their vote. This shows a sense of responsibility one would like to see demonstrated elsewhere.

Complete Results in the Faritany of Antsiranana
Number of seats and percentage obtained by each party.

<u>Fivondronana</u>	<u>AREMA</u>	<u>AKFM</u>	<u>VITM</u>	<u>MFM</u>
Antsiranana I	5	-	5	2
Antsiranana II	11	1	0	2
Ambanja	18	-	-	3
Ambilobe	14	1	1	-
Andapa	21	1	-	-
Antalaha	16	5	1	-
Nosy-Be	7	1	4	-
Sambava	30	2	-	-
Vohemar	18	2	-	-
TOTAL	140	13	11	7
	81.87%	7.60%	6.43%	4.10%

<u>Faritany</u>	<u>AREMA</u>	<u>AKFM</u>	<u>VITM</u>	<u>MFM</u>	<u>MONIMA K.</u>	<u>VSM</u>	<u>UDECMA</u>
Antananarivo	180	88	18	27	5	-	-
Ansiranana	140	13	11	7	-	-	-
Fianarantsoa	128	11	10	13	1	-	1
Mahajanga	132	4	11	5	-	-	-
Toamasina	211	9	11	10	-	-	-
Toliary	137	2	2	4	2	-	-
TOTAL	928	127	63	66	8	0	1

9516

CSO: 3419/858

MOZAMBIQUE

PRAGMATIC ASPECTS OF FRELIMO'S CONGRESS VIEWED

Lisbon DIARIO DE NOTICIAS in Portuguese 4 Mar 83 p 2

[Editorial] [Text] Are short and average term changes to be expected for Mozambique in the course of decisions issuing from the Fourth FRELIMO Congress which has just taken place in Maputo? Let it be said that all the inferences which can be immediately drawn are not too accurate. For two different reasons; first, because of the very nature of the regime, with its laws and regulations, largely closed to foreign curiosity; then, because of the scanty information to which the Portuguese organs of Social Communication have had access, a phenomenon which must not be unrelated to the absence of the ANOP correspondent in the Mozambican capital, expelled for reasons which have not been clarified.

But only in the light of available elements does it become possible to perceive the main priorities which those in charge have in mind. One of the conclusions of the congress indicates the need to stimulate the private sector, especially in the fields of industry and agriculture, since it constitutes an important source of ample food supply. Strengthening the economy, predominantly the state economy, in fact, constitutes one of the goals to be achieved as soon as possible and as quickly as possible because of the gravity of the present situation.

Moreover, the Fourth Frelimo Congress was, so to speak, limited to authorizing a series of guidelines which the political system has already put into practice. Some observers pointed out, as apropos, that the Maputo government seems little concerned with the theoretical contradictions arising from the fact of a Marxist government's opting for a liberal economic model. The denationalization of some companies, opening up to foreign investments for large projects, as well as the proposal to set up mixed-companies, are certainly proof of an indisputable pragmatism which guided a project geared toward revamping production.

This new offensive is aimed at coping with a crisis situation which a prolonged drought has intensified, and is also seeking to eradicate the centers of discontent evident in some sectors of the population, in a state of present poverty and which the Mozambican rebel movement has tried to capitalize on in their favor.

Six years after the Third Congress, the first one held after independence, FRELIMO has a variety of tasks which constitute an undeniable challenge to its organizational ability. It surely was not by chance that this last big assembly took place under the motto: "Defend the fatherland, overcome underdevelopment, build socialism," since the mandate of the proposals is not arbitrary.

8870

CSO: 3442/226

MOZAMBIQUE

PORTUGUESE-SOUTH AFRICAN DISCUSSIONS ON CAHORA BASSA POWER PLANT

Lisbon O DIA in Portuguese 20 Apr 83 p 4

[Text] According to diplomatic sources, a Portuguese technical mission in Pretoria (South Africa) yesterday began consultations aimed at finding solutions to problems concerning the operation of the Cahora Bassa lines.

Almost all the energy produced by the Cahora Bassa central power plant in Mozambique is sold to South Africa, but the operation is very irregular because of the frequent attacks on the transportation lines which are 1,500 kilometers long.

The attacks, especially the destruction of towers, are committed by the National Resistance Movement anti-FRELIMO rebels who, Mozambican authorities allege, receive material support from South Africa.

For every idle day of the lines--which have their terminal in the Apollo exchange near Johannesburg--Portugal, a major shareholder of the Cahora Bassa power plant, suffers a loss of 10,000 contos.

The Portuguese mission, which is in Pretoria, is headed by Castro Fontes, administrative chairman of the Cahora Bassa plant and we know that conversations were agreed upon between the authorities of both countries.

According to sources, the conversations have a preliminary character, probably intended to clear the way for others on a higher level of decisionmaking.

Portugal has also asked South Africa for an agreement with the view to establishing new tariffs for the energy supplied at the Apollo exchange, but their aspirations did not reckon with South African authorities' significant openmindedness to the idea.

The position which Portugal holds in the Cahora Bassa power plant stock amounts to about 82 percent and it is the Portuguese treasury which was taken care of the taxes with the amortization of the voluminous credits which have financed the construction of the dam.

8870

CSO: 3442/226

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

SWEDISH RED CROSS GIFT--The Swedish Red Cross recently gave the Mozambique Red Cross two Mercedes ambulances. This is the second time that the Swedish Red Cross has presented the same model ambulances to its Mozambican counterpart. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 27 Apr 83 p 2] 8870

PRIVATE BANK TO EXPAND--According to information from ANOP [Portuguese News Agency], citing Maputo banking sources, the Totta Mozambique Standard Bank, the nation's only private one, may soon see its field of action expanded to operations heretofore forbidden it. The authorities seem well disposed to the bank shareholders' demands with a view to activating its activities. Since 1975 the bank was been forbidden to engage in operations involving foreign money and has also not been permitted any involvement in foreign trade. [Text] [Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese 29 Apr 83 p 28]

CONSUL REQUESTS ASYLUM IN PORTUGAL--The Mozambican consul, Francisco Victorino Patricio, who late in January had been sent to Maputo, escorted by an SNASPE [National People's Security Service] agent, is now in Lisbon where he has requested political asylum. During the months he spent in Mozambique, Vitorino Patricio was subjected to all kinds of pressure to extract from him a complete written report on his activity in the Portuguese capital since the Mozambican ambassador Ataide fled to Paris. Despite the vigilance maintained on him and doubtless taking advantage of the knowledge acquired during his previous work in airport offices, he succeeded in boarding with a ticket under a false name, on a Mozambican air transport plane and arriving undetected in Lisbon. Because of the kindness and graciousness with which he listened to the various requests. Vitorion won many friends among all those seeking consular services. He is now waiting for the Portuguese authorities to pass judgment on his requests for political asylum. Also awaiting a reply to the same request is Dr Ismael Sulemane, who was head of staff at the Maputo Military Hospital and who is now in Lisbon since the end of 1982. [Text] [Lisbon O DIA in Portuguese 22 Apr 83 p 1] 8870

FIRST PORTUGUESE DEFENSE ATTACHE--Eduardo Velasco arrived in Maputo on a familiarization tour in preparation for his definitive transfer contingent on the solving of such problems as housing. The "agreement" on his nomination was given last November, after the proper Mozambican authorities

had recommended that Portugal accredit a military attache in the country. Military cooperation between Mozambique and Portugal, described in the April 1982 agreement, has developed slowly, particularly because of the lack of financial support. When in October 1982 the Mozambican minister of defense visited Portugal, he was asked to open a 5.6 million contos line of credit, but there are no indications that he had already achieved an agreement. The line of credit is intended to finance importations of military material and logistics support for the Mozambican Armed Forces during the next 5 years. There is now in Maputo a Portuguese military engineering mission headed by Major Pinto Soares and which is working on the initiation of new military quarters. [Text] [Porto O PRIMEIRO DE JANEIRO in Portuguese 18 Apr 83 p 5] 8870

PORTUGUESE TEACHERS' UNION COOPERATION--Portuguese teachers' unions, particularly the one in Greater Lisbon, and the National Organization of Mozambican Teachers, early this week are going to initiate a forceful cooperation agreement the purpose of which is to safeguard the independence of each of the present systems in their respective countries, to improve the teacher situation in Mozambique and Portugal and the quality of teaching given in their respective schools. The unions' international relations Section of the recently formed federation is going to devote itself to the study of school failure (as statistics clearly show that in Portugal 500,000 youth fail in their studies annually) the same occurring in Mozambique, according to the national overall picture; on another subject, it mentions that the organizations' signatories of the agreement will strive to maintain an active international solidarity, although it is believed that, in the near future, Portugal may have more to give than to receive, with its obvious concern to give only that which is requested, and never more than that. Lisbon and Maputo, at the unions and ONP [National Teachers Organization] level, are diligently going to exchange delegations and insist on correspondence exchange. The agreement is to be signed on Tuesday, to take advantage of the presence of the ONP delegation which is attending the Teachers' Congress and is composed of Manuel Araujo and Mose Mabote, concluding, however, long standing negotiations and beginning with documents which, somewhat significant, were proposed by Maputo. [Text] [Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 30 Apr 83 p 24] 8870

CSO: 3442/226

JOINT FRENCH-NIGERIEN COOPERATION COMMISSION MEETING

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 29 Apr-1 May 83 pp 3, 4

[Excerpts] The 18th session of the joint French-Nigerien Cooperation Commission began yesterday afternoon in Niamey. For the present, the discussions are taking place at the experts' level.

The opening of the session was chaired by Sandi Yacouba, secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and head of the Nigerien delegation. The French delegation is led by Christian Joudiou, director of development projects of the French Ministry of Cooperation and Development.

The opening, which took place in the conference room of the "Understanding House," included two brief speeches, one by Sandi Yacouba and the other by Christian Joudiou.

In his speech, Sandi Yacouba first welcomed the French delegation to Niger. He said: "As we receive your delegation, we have the strong feeling of receiving representatives of a country that is a friend of Niger, a country with which we have many imperishable historical ties."

He added: "My country places a high value on France's aid to its economic and social development. It realizes the sacrifices it has made and praises its efforts to promote in the international arena the concept of greater fairness in international economic relations among nations, and the concept of active solidarity between developed and developing countries."

Speaking about the current session of the joint commission, Sandi Yacouba, who is the senior official for all Niger's joint commissions, said that the session gives the two sides the opportunity to define our cooperation, that is to review the basic factors, identify the inadequacies and positive aspects in the implementation of the decisions of the previous session, propose ways and means to remedy these inadequacies, explore new fields for activity, and in the process outline the prospects in light of this thorough and objective examination.

In conclusion, the secretary general said that the Nigerien delegation is approaching the session's work in the spirit of receptiveness and outgoing friendship that has always characterized the discussions in our important commission.

In reply to Sandi Yacouba, Christian Joudiou thanked the Nigerien officials and leaders for their welcome. He also stated that the joint commission session would give the two sides the opportunity to review a number of cooperation projects.

Christian Joudiou also mentioned the topic of the seminars that have been held in Zinder and Maradi, noting that their importance has been appreciated by the lenders and also by French aid officials.

In conclusion, Christian Joudiou said that France's concern in the framework of our cooperation is always to improve the operation of French technical assistance.

9920

CSO: 3419/889

DEFICIENCIES IN SETTING UP SOCIETY OF DEVELOPMENT REVEALED

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 29 Apr - 1 May 83 p 4

[Text] The prefect of Tahoua, Maj Tandja Mamadou, returned Wednesday to the capital town of his department after a 3-day tour of the northern part of Tahoua District. This information and educational tour took him to three important places in the area visited. During his tour, the prefect found the people mobilized and ready for the task of national construction. However, in the course of Prefect Tandja's discussion with representatives of the socio-professional associations a number of deficiencies became apparent. It was concluded that some members of the committee for establishment of the Development Corporation have not assumed their role very effectively. An educational campaign will thus be necessary when the Development Corporation enters its active phase.

Maj Tandja Mamadou, during his tour, spoke to the people visited about several topics, including the rural exodus, performing work with order and discipline, and peaceful cooperation between breeders and farmers. He also visited dispensaries and medical stations in the area, and a market-gardening enterprise. He also devoted attention during his tour to the problem of deforestation in the area. In this connection, he made a point of persuading people not to cut down trees unnecessarily.

9920

CSO: 3419/889

PAI NATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORTED

Dakar TAKUSAAN in French 15-17 Apr 83 p 5

[Text] A national conference of the PAI [African Independence Party] was held on 3 April 1983 at the House of the People in Guediawaye, under the chairmanship of Comrade Secretary-General Balla Ndiaye. After listening to the report of Comrade President Majhmout Diop, which was faithful to the teachings of scientific socialism and in conformity with the decisions of the 29th plenum of its central committee held on 10 January 1982, the PAI voiced satisfaction at having participated fully and completely in the legislative and presidential elections of 27 February 1983.

After the imposing ceremonies marking the 25th anniversary of the party and the holding of the 3rd extraordinary congress, these elections were for the PAI a privileged occasion to strengthen the party and its organization, and further to disseminate the ideas of Marxism among the toiling masses and give vigorous impulse to the unity of the patriotic forces.

The national conference of the API analyzed in depth and in relation to Leninist goals the different activities conducted by the party before and during the electoral campaign. It examined in a lucid way the lessons of this rich revolutionary experience and outlined the new perspectives which are being offered to the working class and to the toiling masses of the country for the Momsareew, and the Defarsareew...

The national conference considers with satisfaction that with the candidacy of Comrade Majhmout Diop, a Marxist party is being presented for the first time in presidential elections in black Africa, and that it is worth saluting this event as a good illustration of the advancement of the ideas of the great Karl Marx on our continent, ideas for which Majhmout Diop is precisely one of the first and most solid standard-bearer.

...Considering that the sordid campaign of calumnies directed particularly against Comrade Majhmout Diop which are emanating both--a normal convergence--from neocolonialist circles and pseudo-Marxist circles--is actually aimed at this tireless and incorruptible revolutionary leader and through him at the PAI...

The national conference encourages the political executive secretariat (SEPO) in the work undertaken in unification and to persist at the opposition level in frustrating the anti-democratic moves of the PS [Socialist Party] and the anti-popular measures which it (the PS) is preparing against the workers.

PEANUT MARKETING CAMPAIGN GOOD DESPITE PROBLEMS

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 14 Apr 83 p 3

[Text] Eight-hundred-thousand tons of peanuts were sold for the 1982-83 agricultural campaign by 31 March, the official date of closing of sales. They represent a value of 53,439,013,442 francs. This is considered a good result. It is much higher than that of the last campaign of 1981-82, which was 687,737, but still far from the record of 1976, which was 1,412,000 tons.

A tendency of the peasants to start selling at the beginning of the campaign was noted. This tendency had two negative consequences. Excessive deposits at the cooperatives and especially an inadequacy of financing, which generated speculation in warehouse receipts. Despite this hitch, parallel selling was weak.

Once they are gathered, the peanuts must be shipped to the oil plants of the SEIB [Baol Electric and Industrial Company], or the SONACOS [National Company for the Marketing of Oil Seeds of Senegal]. The situation is not very satisfactory. It varies, nevertheless, from one zone to another. In the SEIB zone, that is, the Diourbel region and the Department of Linguere, the pace is normal. If it is maintained, shipments will be completed before the end of May. Out of the 100,000 tons to be moved, 60,000, or 60 percent, had already been shipped by 6 April, at a rate of 700 to 800 tons daily. The excessive rate of rejects must be deplored, however. It was fixed at 2.3 percent, whereas it was 1.70 percent last year for this zone.

For the SONACOS zone, or, in other words the rest of the country, the situation is likewise normal for Cap-Vert, Louga, Thies, the Sine-Saloum, and eastern Senegal. More than half the stocks have already been shipped. In Casamance, on the other hand, it is less than half--42,000 tons compared to 90,699. This situation is all the more worrisome because Casamance is along with Eastern Senegal, the region where it rains earlier. But the very old stock of vehicles consists of 143 small trucks and 18 large ones. This does not make the shipment of the nuts possible before the first rains. SONACOS also took protective measures, namely mobilization of 40 trucks of the Union of Cooperatives and 15 of private shippers. Furthermore, the quota of the decorticating center of Kolda was raised and two new collection centers were created at Ziguinchor and Bigona. Finally several large cooperatives are going to be covered with a tarpaulin.

6108

CSO: 3419/821

ENGLISH JOURNALIST COMMENTS ON COUNTRY'S PRESS

London WEST AFRICAN in English No 3429, 2 May 83 pp 1057-1058

[Text] EDITORS OF Sierra Leone's independent newspapers have formed the "Guild of Editors", an association that plans to operate alongside the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ) (*West Africa*, April 25).

The president of the Guild, Mr. I. B. Kargbo, who holds a degree from the University of Sierra Leone, is quoted as saying in his post-election speech in Freetown, that he would do all in his power to ensure that respectability is restored to the independent newspapers. As a team, he said, all editors should fight not only to maintain the free press, but also to introduce a new sense of responsibility. He maintained that the Guild is not an opposition group, but a partner to government in its national development.

This is the second attempt, in recent years, by independent newspapers to establish an association. The first was in 1973, when a group of journalists of the print media and stringers established the Sierra Leone Newspaper Union of Journalists with Bruno Grant of the defunct *The Nation* as president of a 12-man executive. The union was, however, short-lived as it was overshadowed by the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists.

Sierra Leone's press scene has suddenly witnessed a proliferation of newspapers within the last two years, in spite of the enactment of the "killer" Press Bill of 1980, which in practice has still not come into force. There are at present, the long-established *Daily Mail* which is controlled by government; the ruling party newspaper *We Yone* which has not been published for the past eight months and no less than 11 independent newspapers — the *Flash*, *Oracle*, *Globe*, *Progress*, *Advocate*, *Watch*, *Panorama*, *Sabanoh*, *Voice*,

New Shaft and *The National*, with a talk of a 12th to be shortly established, i.e. *The Citizen*. All of them are based in Freetown.

Of all the independent newspapers in Sierra Leone's contemporary press scene, it would appear that only one, *The Progress*, which unfortunately ran into problems recently with the article on the Liberian Head of State, has a definite purpose and direction. *The Progress*, which is weekly, is more or less a hard-core sports news sheet, which also carries local and world news briefs as well as entertainment columns. Its regular column, "Out of the Bag" features light-hearted briefs on important people and happenings in the local community.

A good many of the other independent news sheets appear to be preoccupied with the exposure of corruption, mismanagement of public funds and other ills in the society. Altogether, they seem to be doing a worthwhile job in that they act as a mirror for government as well as a watchdog for the public. Some of the views expressed in them could be said to reflect the views of the masses on certain issues. Nevertheless, looking at the standard of these news sheets, both in appearance and content, one may be tempted to suggest that rather than the proliferation of newspapers, it would be better for some editors to come together to establish three or four good national and regional newspapers each with its own style and purpose.

Most of the independent papers are published very irregularly because of printing and other problems; the layout of many is uniformly bad, few have anything to offer in the way of news, and across the board, many of them lack professionalism, literary style and elegance in the use of language.

There is not enough serious analysis, comment and interpretation coming out of them. The reason for this type of unprofessionalism exhibited by Sierra Leone's new breed of newspaper editors can be attributed to the fact that a good many of them have had no formal training nor experience in journalism before venturing on their own as "editors", in many cases as one-man proprietor and editor. There is no school of journalism in the country; opportunities for training abroad is very limited, and there is, indeed, a limit to the number of personnel that can be employed and trained on the job in the two established papers — *We Yone* and *Daily Mail*, and in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The *Daily Mail* and *We Yone* are themselves experiencing considerable difficulties in the press scene.

The country's only daily, the *Daily Mail*, can no longer be said to be daily, since for quite a while, it has been published very irregularly. This paper normally publishes the Government Information Services version of the daily news bulletin already broadcast about six times altogether on both radio and television, a usually very well thought-out editorial in its opinion column, occasional features on world and local issues, world news briefs and few advertisements and public notices including the popular "In Memoriam". The outside back page carries almost exclusively sports news.

The *Daily Mail*, which is the oldest surviving newspaper in Sierra Leone seems to have lost its grit of yester-years. Presently controlled and funded by government, and in spite of the injection of sophisticated printing machines from Italy and a graduate editor of considerable experience in the field of journalism, serving as both acting managing director and editor, the paper seems to lack journalistic prowess and finesse of similar government national dailies like *The Daily Times* of Nigeria. The acting managing director and editor who is working against the odds to keep the paper alive, once told this correspondent that the problem is finance. His predecessors had left huge debts, with very little funds to attract trained journalists and paid columnists. With the rising cost of overheads and distribution problems, it may be difficult for the paper to regain its past image and without help may fold up.

The *We Yone*, the bi-weekly of the present government, has been off the news-stands since November last year. The problem? The *We Yone* press at Fort Street, which houses the old and faithful Lino printing machines, was thrown-out of its premises by the landlady, who wanted

to convert the flat for her private use. The machines have since been out in the cold.

Adjustments are currently being made to the *We Yone*'s new permanent home at Brookfields to house the "ejected" printing machines. From all indications, and as confirmed by Sam Metzger, the paper which had built-up a formidable reputation as Sierra Leone's No. 1 newspaper, should resume publication shortly.

Indeed, a few attempts have been made by government over the last three years to implement the controversial Newspaper Amendment Act of 1980 which from all intents and purposes is seen as a deliberate weapon to weed out a good many of the independent news sheets. The Bill requires that proprietors of newspapers should register their papers with the Ministry of Information with an accompanying registration fee of Le2,000, renewable after payment of a further fee of Le1,000 annually.

The Bill empowers the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to refuse to register, or renew registration of a newspaper, or cancel or suspend a registration already granted.

A six-man committee under the chairmanship of QC Mr. Johnny Smythe, was subsequently set-up to look at the various applications for registration and to make recommendations in the light of the provisions of the Act.

According to reliable sources, five newspapers were eventually recommended for registration and sent to State House for approval. This approval is still being awaited, but it is doubtful whether the APC government would want to enforce this act with all its provisions and ramifications. In spite of the relatively poor standard of newspaper journalism in the country, the press is admittedly doing a yeoman's job. With the establishment of the Guild of Newspaper Editors and the accompanying promise of its president to restore a sense of responsibility and respectability to the independent press, it is hoped that several papers will eventually merge, and that sanity will return to Sierra Leone's press scene.

Indeed, a press, particularly if it is free, as it relatively is in Sierra Leone, can help to chart the destiny of a nation. The memories of the press in the mid-'60s must still be fresh in the minds of many adult Sierra Leoneans, for it was through the free press of the mid-'60s that the APC Party was able to tilt public opinion in its favour, and to become the first opposition party in contemporary Africa to win a general election through the ballot box. Why can't we have history repeated?

JOHN POKELA DESCRIBES ROBBER ISLAND DETENTION

Ikeja SPEAR in English Apr/May 83 pp 15, 16, 26

[Interview with John Ayaki Pokela, chairman of Pan African Congress of Anzania, by Tam Fiofori in Johannesburg]

[Text]

THE struggle against apartheid in South Africa is as old as colonialism in Africa. This was is not a matter of preference, but one of priority for the preservation of the dignity of the blackman.

Even the early Zulus commanded by King Chaka resolutely challenged the invading white predators and met their incursion with ferocious determination: The cost bravely to a superior force, and can be forgiven. The on-going struggle for the restoration of majority rule in Smith Africa will inevitably see the arrogant and ruthless racist suffer defeat.

This month, we are revising the South Africa racist enclave: the battle lines, life in the notorious Robben Island prison and the men and who have kept the torch of freedom burning. What follows is a report of interview with lead as of the liberation movements in Southern Africa.

BATTLE HOTS UP

The battle against apartheid in South Africa itself has escalated to the alarm and frustra-

tion of the racist minority white regime.

The military wings of the ANC and P.A.C. (Pan Africanist Congress of Azania) have persistently hit key targets with accuracy and efficiency. In December 1982 the ANC effectively struck on nuclear installations. In Tanzania, newspapers warned all Frontline countries to be vigilant and on the lookout for retaliatory raids on them.

The headquarters of the O.A.U. Liberation Committee is in Tanzania and most of the liberation movements of Southern Africa have their strongest representation there. The leaders and planners of these liberation movements know that 1983 looks like another tense year in the battle against racist repression in their countries in Southern Africa. The battle lines as before, are clearly drawn.

For three days in Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria, another battle was staged against racist repression in southern Africa.

This was in the form of a sanctions workshops and seminar organised by NACAP, the Nigerian Anti-Apartheid Movement, as end-of-year activities in 1982, the year that the United Nations had designated as 'Year of Mobilisation of Sanctions Against South Africa.'

Opened by the Vice-President, Dr. Ekwueme, the workshop was well attended by the top architects of the world and African battle against the racist policies of the minority white regime of south Africa. Alhaji Maitama Sule, Nigeria's Ambassador to the United Nations and Chairman of the U.N. Special Committee on Apartheid, Sam Nujoma, President of SWAPO, Professor Magubane of the ANC, Mr. John Nyati Pokela, Chairman of PAC, Ambassadors from Tanzania, Angola, Zimbabwe, anti-apartheid movement in England, University community, the Nigerian Labour Congress, and observers actively participated in the important workshop.

LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

The ANC and the PAC are the two main liberation movements in South Africa, and both of them are officially and equally recognised by the O.A.U. Liberation Committee, and bilaterally as well by many countries in the world, Nigeria included. Hence the presence of both movements at the Jos workshop.

Both movements benefit from all the material, financial, educational, diplomatic and political aid Nigeria offers all the liberation movements in Southern Africa. The ANC is the oldest and somehow parent movement. Its prominent leaders have included Chief Albert Luthuli and Nelson Mandela. Mandela is the originator

of the 'Mandela Plan,' a plan of all-front action, which is still the cornerstone of ANC's policy. Nelson has been held in detention for over twenty years by the racist white minority regime of South Africa. He is at the infamous Robben Island.

The PAC, was formed on the 6th April, 1959. Its beginnings can be traced to the ANC in 1943 when the ANC Youth Wing was formed. By 1948 there was a chapter of this wing at Fort Hare University, and the student-members included J. N. Pokela, Robert Mugabe, M. Sobukwe.

By the fifties, there had emerged two factions, the Africanists with their Pan African vision, and the others. It was these Africanists who left, and formed the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (S.A.) in 1959. Their current Chairman is 62 year old John Nyati Pokela, who has been in the politics of liberation for nearly forty years now.

ROBBEN ISLAND

He was imprisoned at Robben Island for thirteen years, and he was there with Mandela, Namibian leaders, and other ANC and PAC activists who had been abducted by the racist regime. As a true nationalist freedom fighter, Pokela insists that observers and potential sympathisers and aid-donors should see the similarities in the ANC and PAC, rather than emphasise the differences. For one thing, they both know they have a common enemy, and they are both victims of the ruthless racist repression of the enemy. In an interview in Jos, Pokela talked about life on Robben Island.

Mangaliso Sobukwe, the later leader of the PAC, commented,

"We are witnesses today of cold and calculated brutality and bestiality, the desperate attempt of a dying generation to remain in power. We also see, a new spirit of determination, a quiet confidence, the determination of a people to be free whatever the cost."

It is this determination that shines through in the courage of the many freedom fighters in the face of racist repression in Southern Africa.

A.: "... I met Mandela and Susuli on Robben Island, and in the thirteen years I was on Robben Island I discussed the question of unity with Mandela. When I arrived, he said he had discussed it with leaders of the PAC like Mthopeng who is still in prison, and other PAC members, and they felt that unity was the only thing. In 1976 Mandela and I personally as individuals, that we should tell the organisations outside to work towards a common action and agreement."

Q.: Why were you sentenced to Robben Island?

A.: "... I was sentenced for sabotage. When I arrived in prison over 640 were members of the PAC, and over 400 of them had been convicted of sabotage. I was charged with attempting to derail the Blue Train. The Blue Train, moves between Johannesburg and Cape Town and carried only whites when we made the attempt. We had already loosened the bolts of the rails. Secondly, I was charged with attacking a police station in King's town, and one of our men was caught on top of the roof."

Q.: ... What kind of trail did you get?

DOUBLE TRAIL

A.: "... I went to Basu-

toland when it was still under the British in 1963. There I was charged under the 'Prevention of Violence Abroad Act,' which was formulated by the British in Lesotho. Under this law, if a person who was a South African we caught planning to try to overthrow South Africa, he was charged."

I was therefore charged in Lesotho in 1965 for trying to organise and train people to go and attack South Africa. Then I won the case in court. But the enemy felt that I was guilty even though I had been acquitted. So, they kidnapped me in Lesotho in 1966, and was placed in detention for eight months."

Many times, I was kept in dark rooms, left there hungry and tortured. Then I was ultimately charged under sabotage, for attempting to blow the Blue Train and attempt to destroy a police station. In June 1967, I was convicted to a term of twenty years, seven of which ran concurrently.

"When I was charged in the racist regime and when I was charged in Lesotho, the witnesses that were used in Lesotho came from South Africa, and when I was ultimately kidnapped and brought to South Africa and charged, the same witnesses who had given evidence in Lesotho were brought again to come and give evidence.

"So I argued that I was being charged twice for one and the same offence and that witnesses that were used were the same. This argument I feel, contributed to the decision of the judge that the seven years should run concurrently; because in Lesotho where I was charged using the same witnesses I was acquitted. So I had to serve thirteen full years; to the minute, and I was taken to Robben Island."

ISOLATION

Mangaliso Sobukwe's answers to questions on Robben Island are as follows:

Q.: . . . What were some of your experiences at Robben Island?

A.: ". . . On Robben Island, in the morning we go to work in the quarry. When we came back, we were usually in big groups of up to eight hundred, we would be stripped naked and searched. Young and old, big and small, under all types of weather, cold or rainy, we would have to stand there and wait to be searched. That was one bitter experience I cannot easily forget.

Then we ate outside in the open, squatting whether it was dusty or rainy we had to squat out in the open for our food. Then those of us who were regarded as leaders, were thrown in isolation.

In 1967, I was put in isolation, because it was felt that I was trying to unite members of my organisation and members of other organisations.

I was sent into isolation for two months. From 1971 to 1972 again, because I was uniting our people after I had been put into maximum security with Mandela, Susuli and others, I was sent to isolation for nine months. I was not even allowed to read a Bible. During the day, the mats were taken out, and I had to sleep on the hard floor.

From September 1972 to May 1973, I was again kept in isolation, hardly getting any correspondence, blankets kept out, my visits cut off, and I could not even talk to the prisoners because it was felt that I was uniting members of the PAC and those of the Black Consciousness movement.

We used to go on hunger

strikes. I remember in 1972 when the Namibians joined us, we went on a hunger strike. We were all in maximum. The Namibians clashed with the racist warders, and all the political prisoners supported the Namibians. Toisvos cell was just opposite mine.

They had just been there hardly a few hours when the clash started. We were all beaten up and stripped naked again in their cells, and made to face the wall. These were some of the ugly experiences one got on Robben Island.

NO MEDICAL CARE

"Also, the treatment particularly in the general section of medical treatment, was very poor. A large number of people left prison and were found to be Tuberculosis cases. By the time I left Robben Island, about sixteen people had suffered from and died of cancer.

Cancer, is a disease that is generally accepted as one that ultimately leads to the sufferer's death quickly. As such, the sufferer of cancer, should for purely humanitarian reasons be allowed to go and die in the presence of his family and people. But the racist regime refused that these people, who had this terminal disease, should not go and die with their people.

When Browne Fischer, a member of the Communist Party of South Africa, under charges was found to have this terminal disease-cancer, even though he was a communist because he was white, he was allowed to go and die in the hands of his brother.

But the racist regime do not like a black man who has the same terminal disease to go and die in the hands of his brother. You can see then the extent of

Apartheid. Whether ill, sick or not sick, the colour there is used. Whether dead or alive, you are still discriminated against because of your colour.

So you can see the depth of racism in South Africa. It is this type of life Apartheid forges for black people in South Africa.

We in prison were kept ignorant about the things that were happening outside. By the time I left we were not even allowed to read newspapers. Any prisoner found with a piece of paper or newspaper, was sent to isolation as punishment. Sometimes we were at the mercy of ruthless warders who had no mercy at all. They beat prisoners without any provocation."

Q. . . . How could you eventually leave South Africa?

ESCAPE TO FREEDOM

A.: "... I was released from Robben Island on the first of June in 1980. When I left Robben Island, members of the PAC felt that it should come out and take the leadership of the PAC. When I got into South Africa, the activists inside the country said that I should come out to take the leadership. Those abroad had also said the same thing when I left prison. That

is why I am now Chairman of the Pan Africanist Congress.

"South Africa has wide borders and you can move. That is why hundreds of our people have been able to go through South African borders, by devious clandestine ways. This is how I did it."

Q.: . . . Do your experiences in Robben Island and South Africa, make you bitter?

A.: "... As a revolutionary, you don't become bitter. A revolutionary is committed to change society whilst he himself is undergoing a change. A revolutionary aims at destroying the enemy. As far as destroying the enemy is concerned, that is still my task. And I still find that it is a just cause. Since 1948 when I joined politics, I have maintained that the struggle of my people IS MY STRUGGLE. I am satisfied that inside the country, the Azanian people now know their enemy. Their enemy first and foremost, are the racist regime and the imperialists. Their second enemy, are those who are helping the enemy to continue to oppress and exploit the black people. Thirdly, those of the Azanians who are prolonging the exploitation of our people."

TANZANIA

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC SABOTAGE TRIALS--Forty-two persons have been arraigned today before the special tribunal of Mbeya to answer charges connected with economic sabotage. All those accused denied the charges against them and were remanded until September. [Summary] [Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 30 May 83 EA] At Kigona yesterday Judge (Raymond Mwakisu) refused bail for 23 persons accused of economic sabotage. He said that at this stage the tribunal will only be taking pleas of guilty or not guilty. All the accused pleaded not guilty but were remanded until 15 August this year, when their cases will be heard again. [Summary] [Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 30 May 83 EA]

CSO: 3449/21

ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

VOTERS REGISTERS EXTENSION--The elections office will not extend the period of checking voters registers because it is unconstitutional to do so. The spokesman explained today that as far as the elections office was concerned, the 7-day period of checking on the voters registers ended yesterday. He said he had made consultations with the director of elections and the chairman of the elections commission, and they had said there will be no extension of the period of checking of the voters registers. [Text] [MB231929 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 May 83]

CSO: 3400/1463

END